

VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether tissue culture techniques are widely used in the country to boost agricultural production;

(b) If so, the details thereof and achievements made so far;

(c) whether this technique has also been introduced on commercial scale; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b). Sir, Tissue culture techniques are being used only on a limited scale for increasing agricultural production in propagation of elite plant material of crops like ornamental foliage plants, orchids, banana, sugarcane and cardamom. Tissue culture technique is also being used for conservation of germplasm of crops propagated through vegetative means and for generating new genetic variations in crop plants.

(c) Yes.

(d) Tissue culture technique is being used on commercial scale in orchids, foliage plants, small cardamom and banana.

[English]

Acquisition of Land for Visakhapatnam Steel Project

1307. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will

(i) Original petition cases U/S 18(1) of L.A. Act, 1894 etc.	-	157
(ii) Appeals filed by Govt. of Andhra Pradesh against orders of the Lower court and pending in the High Court	-	57
(iii) Appeals pending in Supreme Court	-	34

National Fishing Harbour Authority

1308. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will

the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons displaced as a result of land acquisition for the Visakhapatnam Steel Project;

(b) the criteria adopted in fixing the price of land to the land oustees;

(c) the compensation paid to them;

(d) whether some cases are pending in the court; and

(e) if so, the number thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) As a result of land acquisition of Visakhapatnam Steel Project (VSP) 14,688 persons have been displaced.

(b) Compensation for lands acquired for VSP has been paid at the following rates:

(i) Dry land	-	Rs. 17,000 per acre
(ii) Wet land	-	Rs. 20,000 per acre
(iii) Village site	-	Rs. 6/7 per sq. yard
(iv) State land	-	Rs. 1270 per acre

(c) An amount of Rs. 27.75 crores has been paid to Govt. of Andhra Pradesh towards payment of compensation for the lands acquired for VSP.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. The details of cases pending in courts are given below:-

the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set

up a National Fishing Harbour Authority;

[Translation]

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes Sir, as a Central Fishery Harbour Authority.

(b) and (c). Government have commissioned so far four major fishery harbours at Roychowk (West Bengal), Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), Madras (Tamil Nadu) and Cochin (Kerala). Two more major harbours are under construction. The maintenance and management of these harbours are not satisfactory at present. Government are incurring a lot of expenditure annually for their maintenance. The feasibility of establishing Central Fishery Harbour Authority for development, management and maintenance of major fishery harbours presently under the charge of Major Port Trusts, is therefore being explored.

Taking over of Singareni Collieries by Coal India Limited

1309. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to bring the Singareni Collieries in Andhra Pradesh under the Coal India Limited; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) There is no such proposal for the present.

(b) Does not arise.

Adulteration of Petrol at Petrol Pumps

1310. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any agency to check the adulteration of petrol at various petrol pumps in the country;

(b) if so, the number of petrol, diesel pumps checked by the concerned agency and its branches during the last year and the current year; and

(c) the outcome thereof and the action taken against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Regular/surprise and Joint Inspections are being conducted by the Oil Cos. Powers have also been delegated the Civil Supplies Authorities and other enforcement agencies of State Government to check the adulteration.

(b) Petrol, diesel pumps checked by the Oil Cos. are as follows:

Year	Inspection conducted
April '90 to March '91	61312
April '91 to August '91	28375

Figures w.r.t. inspections conducted by each State/UTs are not available.

(c) Actions taken by the Oil Cost against the persons found guilty are as follows:-

Action	April '90 to March '91	April '91 to August '91
(i) Termination	4	6
(ii) Continued suspension of supplies	99	26
(iii) Temporary suspension	326	97